BEFORE THE VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

APPLICANT: Ashland Exploration, Inc.)

RELIEF SOUGHT: FORCED POOLING

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: UNIT G.P.A-5 KNOX DISTRICT DOCKET NUMBER: VGOB-92/12/15-0300

BUCHANAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA (SEE DESCRIPTION HEREIN AND MAP AND PLAT ATTACHED HERETO)

AS EXHIBITS A and B

NOTICE: This application shall come on for hearing before the Virginia Gas and Oil Board at a meeting to be held on the 15th day of December, 1992, in Abingdon, Virginia, at the 4-H Center, located on Hillman Highway.

APPLICATION:

1. Parties.

1.1 Applicant herein is Ashland Exploration, Inc., ("Ashland") a corporation, whose address for the purposes hereof is P. O. Box 391, Ashland, Kentucky, 41101. Telephone: 606-329-3333. The attorney for Applicant is J. Grant McGuire, Suite 1400, Coal Exchange Building, 401 Eleventh Street, P. O. Box 1835, Huntington, West Virginia, 25719. Telephone: 304-529-2391.

1.2 The tract which is the subject matter of this application is known as Unit G.P.A-5 (the "Unit") as hereafter

described and is depicted on the map and plat attached respectively as Exhibits A and B. The names and last-known addresses of each gas, oil, coal and mineral owner identified by Applicant as owning an interest in the gas, oil, coal and minerals underlying the Unit are set forth in Exhibit "C" attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Every individual or entity having an interest in the gas underlying the tracts in the Unit located in Knox District is made a party to this application, whether known or unknown. Each of the individuals named in Exhibit "C" is being made a party if living; if any such individual is deceased, then the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees and assigns, both immediate and remote, of any such deceased individual are made parties hereto. Any entity listed in Exhibit "C" that is a corporation is being made a party if such entity continues to have legal existence, and if any such corporation is dissolved, then the unknown successors, trustees and assigns, both immediate and remote, of such dissolved corporation are made parties herein. Any entity listed in Exhibit "C" that is an unincorporated association is being made a party if such entity continues to have legal existence, and if any such unincorporated association is dissolved or otherwise not in existence, then the unknown successors, trustees and assigns, both immediate and remote, of such unincorporated association are made parties herein.

1.3 Applicant has exercised due diligence to locate each of the persons and entities listed on Exhibit "C" owning interests in the gas, oil, coal and minerals underlying the tracts in the Unit. The parties named in Exhibit "D" are the gas owners who have not agreed to pool their interests in the Unit. Applicant has attached an affidavit of due diligence as Exhibit "E". Applicant will deposit into an interest-bearing escrow account as required by Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361.21D (Michie Supp. 1991) all cash bonuses, royalty payments or other payments attributable to any gas owner whose identity and location are unknown. Simultaneously with the filing of this application, Applicant has provided notice to each of the known parties set forth in Exhibit "C" pursuant to the provisions of Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361.19A (Michie Supp. 1991). Applicant is providing notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to each known person or entity having or claiming an interest in the gas, oil, coal and minerals underlying the Unit. The owners whose locations are unknown at the time of the filing of this application are shown on Exhibit "F". Applicant hereby notifies the Virginia Gas and Oil Board (hereinafter the "Board") that where the identity or location of any person or entity is unknown, or is shown as "unknown" on Exhibits "C", "D", or "F", then Applicant is unable to provide said person or entity with written notice of the application herein. Applicant hereby notifies the Board that where the identity or location of any person or entity is unknown, or is shown as "unknown" on Exhibits "C", "D", or "F", Applicant is providing such person or entity with notice by publication in a newspaper of general circulation pursuant to Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361.19 (Michie Supp. 1991). The gas interests of such persons and entities, whether known or unknown, should be pooled for the development and operation thereof. It is necessary, to prevent waste, to protect correlative rights, and to ensure the safe and efficient development and production of gas resources in the Commonwealth, that the Board hear this matter and adjudicate the rights and equities as between Applicant and the herein named persons and entities.

2. Allegation of Facts:

- A. Description.
- 2.1 A description for the Unit area to be pooled is as follows:

A circular unit of 125.66 acres with a radius of 1320 feet extending from a point located on Virginia State Plane Coordinate N 419371.3060, E96624.0871

B. Formations.

2.2 The target formation underlying the Unit which is to be produced is the Devonian Shale formation.

C. Well.

2.3 The type of well proposed by this application is a gas well.

D. Force Pooling.

- 2.4 Two or more separately owned tracts are embraced within the Unit. There are separately owned interests in all or part of the Unit and a portion of those owning interests have not agreed to pool their interests.
- 2.5 Applicant currently has under lease 61.60% of the rights to develop and produce gas from the Unit. The parties named in Exhibit "D" are the gas owners who have not agreed to pool their interests in the Unit. These gas owners account for 38.40% of the Unit. Applicant has made a bona fide effort to reach an agreement with all known parties as to their interests for the development and operation of the Unit involved herein. Therefore, the interests of the gas owners in the Unit involved herein, whether known or unknown, should be pooled for the development and operation thereof.

E. Costs and Production.

2.6 The estimated average production for the well over its life is 26 mcfd. The estimated amount of reserves contained within the Unit is 0.3 bcf. These figures concerning

estimated production and the amount of reserves are, however, estimates only that are not based upon actual production.

- 2.7 The estimated cost of drilling, completing, and producing the well is shown on the Detailed Well Estimate attached as Exhibit "G".
- 3. Legal Authority. The relief sought by this
 Application is authorized by: (1) Va. Code Ann. §§45.1-361.1 et

 seq. (Michie Supp. 1991); (2) VR 480-05-22.1; (3) VR 480-05-22.2

 (1991); and, (4) such other regulations promulgated pursuant to law.
- 4. Relief Sought. Applicant respectfully requests the Board to enter an order as follows:
- (A) Pooling all the interests and estates of every individual or entity having an interest in the gas underlying the tracts in the Unit, whether known or unknown, the persons and entities having an interest in the gas underlying the tracts in the Unit named herein in Exhibit "C" and their known and unknown heirs, executors, and administrators, devisees, trustees, assigns and successors, both immediate and remote, for the drilling, development and production of gas from the Unit;
- (B) Designating Applicant, Ashland Exploration, Inc., as the Unit Operator ("Operator"); providing that the Operator shall have the right to drill, explore, develop, produce, market

and sell gas produced from the Unit; granting the Operator the right to drill at any permitted location on the Unit; and granting the Operator the right to operate the well drilled on the Unit;

entity named herein shall have the right to elect: (1) to assign or lease his/its gas interest in the Unit to the Operator; (2) to enter into a voluntary agreement with the Operator to share in the operation (including sharing in all reasonable costs of the drilling of the well and development of the Unit) at a rate of payment mutually agreed to by the person or entity making the election hereunder and the Operator herein; or, (3) to share in the operation of the well drilled on the Unit as a nonparticipating operator on a carried basis after the proceeds allocable to such person or entity's share equal the following:

In the case of a leased tract, 300 percent of the share of such costs allocable to such person or entity's interest; or,

In the case of an unleased tract, 200 percent of the share of such costs allocable to such person or entity's interest,

all as determined by the Board;

(D) Providing that any person or entity named herein who does not make a timely written election under the terms of the order to be entered herein shall be deemed to have leased

his/its gas interests in the Unit to the Operator at a rate to be established by the Board;

- (E) Providing that all reasonable costs and expenses of drilling, completing, equipping, operating, plugging and abandoning such well shall be borne, and all production therefrom shares, by all participating parties in the proportion which the acreage in the unitized tracts owned or under lease to each such participating party bears to the total acreage in the Unit;
- (F) Making provision for the payment of all reasonable costs of the operation, including a reasonable supervision fee to the Operator, by all parties who elect to participate therein or who elect to be carried interest owners;
- (G) Making all necessary provisions for the escrowing of proceeds in cases of unknown or unlocated owners of the gas underlying the Unit pursuant to Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361.21D (Michie Supp. 1991);
- (H) Providing that the order to be entered herein shall expire one (1) year from the date of this issuance if operations for the development of the Unit have not commenced by said date; but further providing that if operations have commenced during said one year period, then said order shall remain in effect for so long as operations continue on the Unit;
- (I) Providing that all nonleasing gas owners be provided with reasonable access to unit records submitted to the

Director of Mines, Minerals and Energy or to the Virginia Gas and Oil Inspector; and,

(J) Granting such other relief as is merited by the evidence and is just and equitable, whether or not such relief has been specifically requested herein.

DATED this 12 day of 100, 1992.

ASHLAND EXPLORATION, INC.

J. Grant McGuire

Attorney at Law
Suite 1400 Coal Exchange Building
P. O. Box 1835
Huntington, West Virginia 25719
(304) 529-2391

CERTIFICATE

The foregoing Application to the best of my knowledge, information and belief is true and correct. Notice was given pursuant to Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361.19 (Michie Supp. 1991).

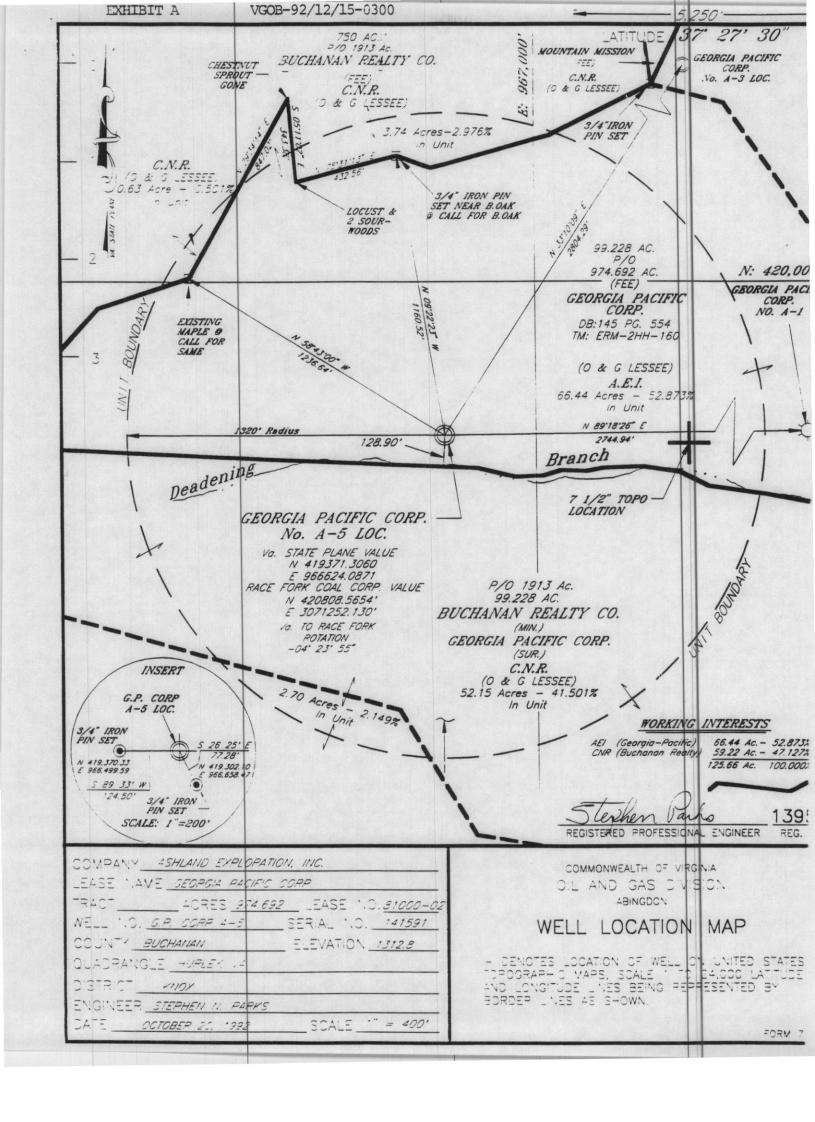
The undersigned further attests that the Well Location Map attached as Exhibit B conforms to existing order of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board.

I, J. Grant McGuire, of counsel for Ashland Exploration, Inc., hereby certify that I have on this, the day of 1992, caused the foregoing notice and application to be served upon all parties listed on Exhibit C, who have an interest in property within 2640 feet of Well G.P. A-5, at their address, by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Dated this __ day of _____, 1992.

mind is true

J. Grant McGuire Counsel for Ashland Exploration, Inc.



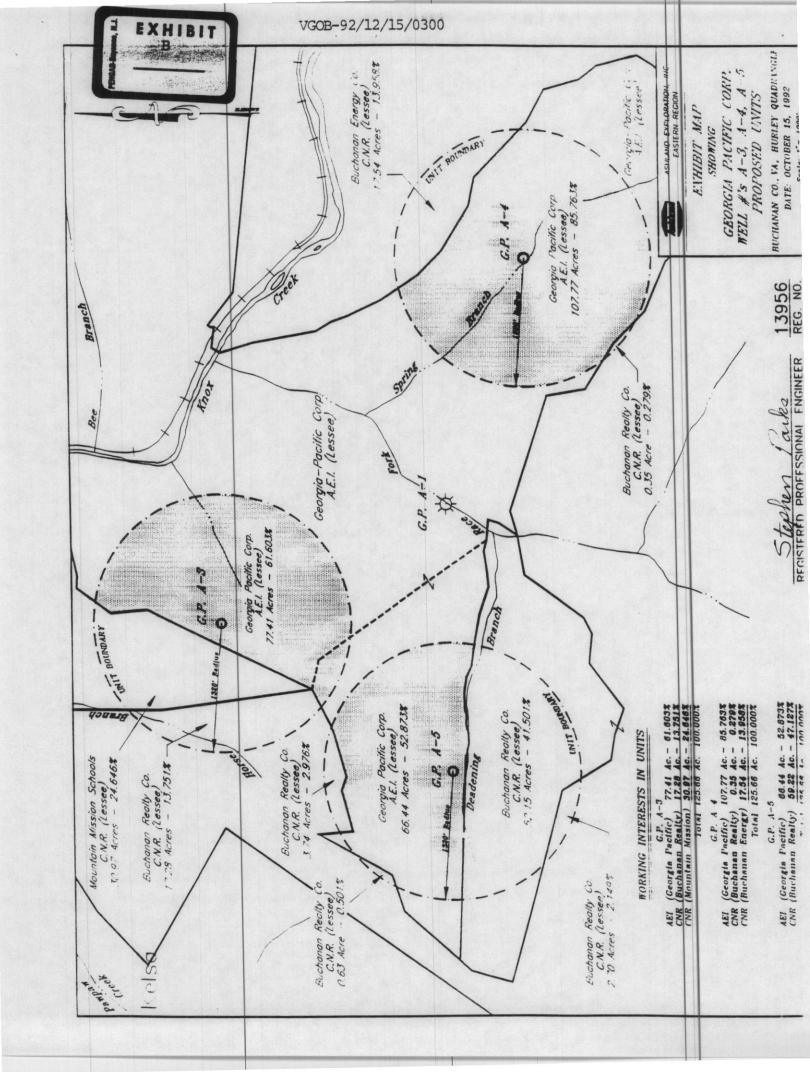


EXHIBIT C

		EARIBIL	
GAS,	OII	L, COAL AND MINERAL OWNER OR POS	TENTIAL OWNERS OF 125.66
ACRE			
I.	Fee	e Ownership (Surface, Coal, Gas	and Oil)
	1.	Georgia Pacific Corporation P. O. Box 105605 Atlanta, Georgia 30348	66.44 Acres = 52.87%
	2.	Buchanan Realty Co. Box 663 Grundy, Virginia 24614	59.22 Acres = 47.13%
II.	Ga	s and Oil Leasehold Ownership	
	1.	Ashland Exploration, Inc. P. O. Box 391 Ashland, KY 41101	66.44 Acres = 52.87%
	2.	Columbia Natural Resources Attn: Danny Haught 900 Pennsylvania Avenue P.O. Box 6070 Charleston, WV 25362	59.22 Acres = 47.13%
III.	<u>c</u>	coal Leasehold Ownership	
		Race Fork Coal Corp. P. O. Box 196 Hurley, Virginia 24620	125.66 Acres = 100%

IV. Coalbed Methane Specific Leasehold Ownership

None.

EXHIBIT D

Unleased Owners and Potential Owner of Gas

Columbia Natural Resources
Attn: Danny Haught
900 Pennsylvania Avenue
P. O. Box 6070
Charleston, WV 25362

55.22 Acres = 47.13%

EXHIBIT E

AFFIDAVIT OF DUE DILIGENCE

Comes the Affiant, J. Grant McGuire, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. Affiant is counsel for Ashland Exploration, Inc., and is authorized to execute this affidavit.
- 2. Ashland Exploration, Inc., has used due diligence to locate and serve all persons designated as gas, oil coal or mineral owners having an interest underlying any tract located within the distances of proposed Well G.P. A-5 in Knox District, Buchanan County, Virginia, in accordance with Va. Code §45.1-361.19 and Section 4 of VR 480-05-22.2.
- 3. All known persons referenced above have been served with notice of the hearing. Any such persons whose names or locations are unknown have been notified by publication in accordance with Section 4 of the above-referenced regulation. And further this Affiant sayeth not.

J. Grant McGuire

I wil I from

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF CABELL, TO-WIT:

Taken, subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned authority, this 13th day of 1 1992.

My commission expires _ 101/20 7.01 (Notarial moves eatly Notary Public STATES : 10145

G.P.A-5

EXHIBIT F

Unlocated Gas, Oil, Coal and Mineral Owners
None

FE SUMMARY/AEI 41205	Devonian Shale	NO	1 Ge R	2/12/11-3
Ashland Exploration, Inc.	5-27-92	AME OR BLOCK		
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745 COMMUNICATIONS				
805 I INSURANCE				
808 OVERHEAD				
840 SUPERVISION - COMPANY 841 SUPERVISION - OUTSIDE		1,500	2,100	1,500
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854 TUBING 855 WELLHEAD EQUIPMENT	617 FT 2 3/8". @ \$/F	500	1,000	1,500
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		APPROVED BY		****
		APPROVED BY		
		APPROVED BY		



CAMPBELL, WOODS, BAGLEY, EMERSON, MCNEER & HERNDON

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW
SUITE 1400, COAL EXCHANGE BLDG.

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HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25719-1835

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ASHLAND OFFICE:

IGOB CARTER AVENUE
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ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41105-1862
(GOG) 329-1974

R. CARTER ELKINS
CHERYL L. CONNELLY
J. GRANT MCGJIRE
DAVID CURTIS RAY
DAVID A. MOHLER
CHARLES I. JONES, JR.
JOHN D. HOFFMAN
JOHN F. MCCUSKEY
JAMES W. GABEHART
LAURA L. GRAY
CHRISTOPHER A. CONLEY * †
WILLIAM J. HANNA
PHILIP O. RATLIFF *

JAMES H. DAVIS, III

NOT ADMITTED IN WEST VIRGINIA

March 18, 1993

Byron T. Fulmer
Principal Executive to the Staff
The Virginia Gas & Oil Board
P. O. Box 1416
230 Charwood Drive
Abingdon, Virginia 24210

Re: Amended Application for Force

Pooling of Unit G.P. A-5

VGOB-92/12/15-0300

Dear Mr. Fulmer:

ROLLA D. CAMPBELL (1895-1987)

SELDEN S. MCNEER (1894-1963)

ROBERT K. EMERSON (1922-1991) SELDEN S. MCNEER, JR.

LUTHER E. WOODS (RETIRED)
CHARLES F. BAGLEY

RICHARD GREGORY MONEER
JAMES R. BAILES

MILTON T. HERNDON

HOWARD R. CREWS, JR.

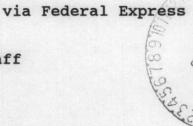
CHARLES F. BAGLEY, III EDWARD M. KOWAL, JR.

JAMES H. MOORE, III *
JOEL PATRICK JONES

W. NICHOLAS REYNOLDS

Ashland Exploration, Inc., encloses ten copies of this letter and its enclosures which amends the forced pooling application of the above unit. The original application is amended to reflect a recently discovered overlapping voluntary unit between and among Mountain Mission School, Buchanan Realty Co., and Columbia Gas Transmission. Also enclosed is a revised well location map reflecting the overlapping unit and a map of the area showing Ashland's lease and surrounding leases.

By copy of this letter sent by certified mail, I am serving a copy of this amended application to the parties



Page 2 March 18, 1993

and I notify them that this matter has been continued until the April docket of the VGOB.

Crant Macine

Very truly yours,

J. Grant McGuire

JGM/jc

cc: w/encl

Georgia Pacific Corporation Mountain Mission School Buchanan Realty Co. Columbia Natural Resources Race Fork Coal Corporation

